

NOTE

*Hyadaphis tataricae* (Homoptera: Aphididae):  
10 Years After its Introduction into  
North America

The arrival of alien species of insects on the North American continent is a common phenomenon, whether occurring accidentally or purposefully. The aphid *Hyadaphis tataricae* (Aizenberg) is one such recently, accidentally-introduced immigrant (Voegtlin, 1981, Proc. Entomol. Soc. Wash. 83(2): 361-362); it has not only established itself but also has rapidly expanded its geographical range. This aphid has a fairly narrow host range within the honeysuckles, feeding

only on those within the *Lonicera tatarica* complex (Voegtlin, 1982, Great Lakes Entomol. 15(3): 147-152). Species and cultivars of this complex of honeysuckles have been planted extensively across Canada and the northern United States, and there have probably been few insects that found a more favorable environment waiting for them on this continent.

Over the past 10 years, as *H. tataricae* has continued to expand its range, we have re-

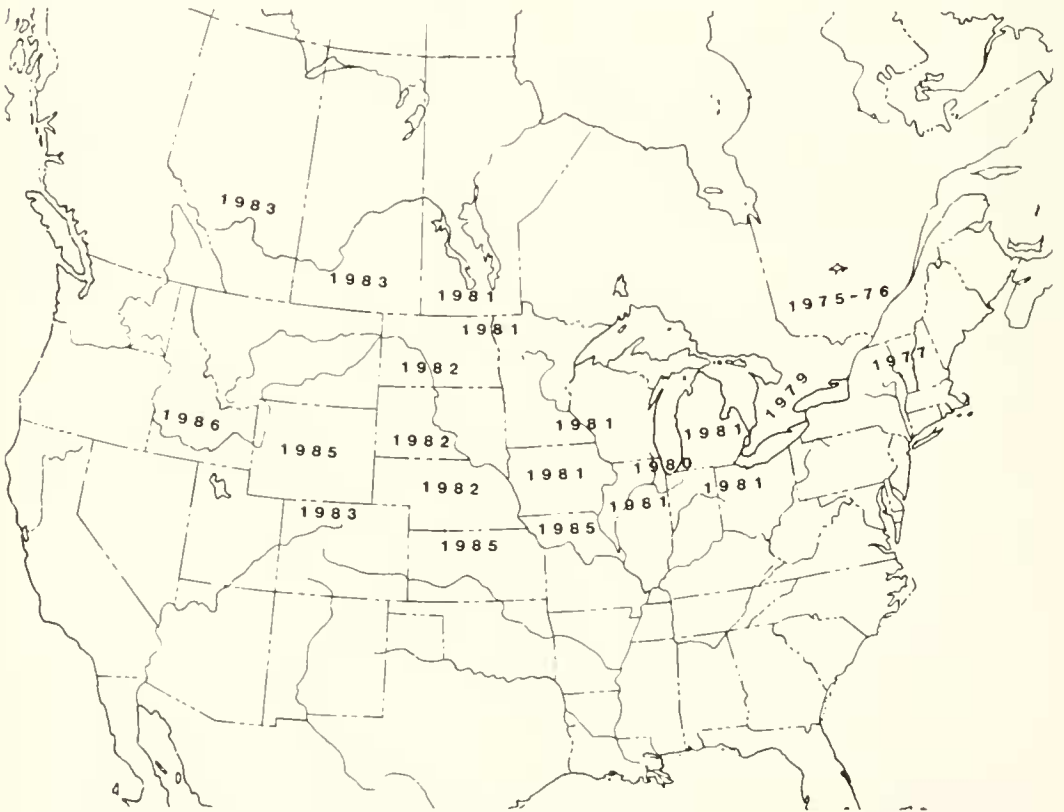


Fig. 1. Distribution of *Hyadaphis tataricae* in North America. Years indicated on the map represent first verification of the collection of the aphid in the region, state or province.

ceived many samples for identification and verification. As can be seen from Fig. 1, there has been a continual expansion westward, and the aphid has now crossed the Rocky Mountains, at least into Idaho (S. E. Halbert, pers. commun.). The aphid probably can be found in Montana, Utah and several of the north-eastern states as well, but to date we have no positive records from them. An interesting aspect of the spread has been the apparent limit in the expansion of the aphid's range southward. This could be a function of the distribution of its host plants, which are not widely planted in the middle to southern regions of the United States, or of unfavorable climate. Grigorov (1965, Gradinar, Lozar, Nauk. Sofia 2(4): 493-501) noted that *H. tataricae* did poorly in hot weather in Bulgaria.

The impact of this aphid has been felt most keenly in the north central areas of the United States and adjacent parts of Canada where honeysuckles have been widely used as ornamentals and in shelterbelts. Nurseries, which catered to the demand for honeysuckles and grew, almost exclusively, cultivars related to *L. tatarica*, have suffered severe losses with the result that these cultivars have pretty much disappeared from the horticultural trade. The Landscape Arboretum of the University of Minnesota has

developed and released a cultivar that appears to be resistant to *H. tataricae* but has retained most of the desirable horticultural characteristics of the species in the *L. tatarica* complex (Pellet et al. 1985, J. Environ. Hort. 3(2): 79-81).

The invasion by this newly introduced aphid species has not been considered a problem by everyone. It is well known that the species in the *L. tatarica* complex escape cultivation and become problems in native landscapes. Initially it was hoped that *H. tataricae* might effect some natural control of these escaped, weedy honeysuckles. Unfortunately, this has not happened. However the intensity of attack, the dwarfing and folding of terminal leaves, and the resulting witches' broom undoubtedly influences growth rate and seed set and thus may slow the plant's proliferation.

We would like to acknowledge and thank those who sent in samples for verification and provided distributional information.

David Voegtlin, *Illinois Natural History Survey, 607 E. Peabody, Champaign, Illinois 61820*; Manya B. Stoetzel, *Systematic Entomology Laboratory, Agricultural Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Beltsville, Maryland 20705*.